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Armed Pawn Shop Robbers Sentenced

SAVANNAH: Edmund A. Booth, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **Marion Robert Smith**, age 23, and **Jarrod Jeremiah Mincey**, age 19, both of Savannah, were sentenced on March 26, 2008 and March 31, 2008, in U.S. District Court in Savannah by Chief U.S. District Judge William T. Moore, Jr. Both had been earlier convicted of interference with commerce by robbery in the May 29, 2007 gunpoint robbery of Port City Pawn Shop. They were also convicted of brandishing a firearm during and in relation to interference with commerce by robbery of Big Tom's Pawn Shop, Savannah, Georgia, on June 15, 2007.

The convictions were the result of an investigation by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, in conjunction with Garden City Police and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police that led to the charges. The evidence at each guilty plea hearing showed that the defendants entered each pawn shop, brandishing the same .40 caliber pistol, and each time robbed the pawn shop of jewelry and firearms. Each time, several individuals were held at gunpoint. After robbing Big Tom's, the defendants were finally apprehended after they rammed a police vehicle with the stolen car they were driving in an attempt to escape and then fled on foot.

Booth said that Smith was sentenced to 300 months imprisonment and Mincey was sentenced to 168 months imprisonment. The defendants were also ordered to pay \$6,400.00

restitution to Port City Pawn Shop, Garden City, Georgia. After the completion of service of their sentences, each defendant will be required to serve five years of supervised release. Booth noted that there is no parole in the federal system. Both defendants are presently in the custody of the United States Marshal.

The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorney Cameron Heaps Ippolito.

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